

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-05 PM-03 PRS-01 SP-02 NSC-05

NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 /037 W

----- 042940

R 310920Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 077

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 5758

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, US, CB

SUBJ: JAPANESE AMBASSADOR BIDS FAREWELL

1. JAPANESE AMBASSADOR KURINO CALLED ON ME MARCH 31 TO ANNOUNCE THAT HE WOULD BE LEAVING PHNOM PENH FOR BANGKOK ON SATURDAY, APRIL 5. HE AVAILED HIMSELF OF OPPORTUNITY TO THANK ME FOR MAKING AVAILABLE THREE SEATS ON USAID PLANE FOR REMAINING THREE JAPANESE MISSION MEMBERS. KURINO SAID HE PLANS TO SPEND A COUPLE OF DAYS IN BANGKOK CONSULTING INDONESIAN AND THAI AMABASSADORS, WHO ARE PRESENTLY IN THE THAI CAPITAL, TO DISCUSS WHAT, IF ANYTHING, ASIAN COUNTRIES CAN DO TO HELP KHMERS FIND AN EARLY POLITICAL SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT. HE SAID HE WOULD THEN PROCEED TO TOKYO, WHERE HE WILL CONTINUE "WORKING ON WAYS TO FIND AN ORDERLY DENOUEMENT TO THE KHMER CONFLICT." IF THIS REQUIRES HIS RETURNING TO PHNOM PENH ON A VISIT, THIS SHOULD NOT BE RULED OUT, HE SAID.

2. AMBASSADOR KURINO SAID HE REGRETTED THAT HE HAD BEEN ORDERED BY HIS FOREIGN OFFICE TO WITHDRAW ALL EMBASSY STAFF FROM PHNOM PENH, SOMETHING HE HAD NOT ADVOCATED. HE NOTED THAT FINALLY ASIAN COUNTRIES HAD SUCCEEDED IN BRINGING ABOUT THE MARSHAL'S DEPARTURE FROM CAMBODIA WHICH, IN HIS OPINION, WILL FACILITATE
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AN ORDERLY SOLUTION. HE SADLY REMARKED THAT IT WOULD

HAVE BEEN BETTER IF THE ASIAN AMBASSADORS HAD BEEN
INSTRUCTED BY THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO REMAIN IN PHNOM
PENH, SO THAT THEY COULD HAVE BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN
BRINGING ABOUT SUCH A SOLUTION.

3. COMMENT. AMBASSADOR KURINO IS A HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL
DIPLOMAT AND HE HAS MADE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION HERE.
WITH HIS DEPARTURE AT THE END OF THIS WEEK ONLY
REPRESENTATIVES FROM OUR "CLIENT" STATES--SOUTH
VIETNAM, SOUTH KOREA, TAIWAN-- WILL REMAIN IN PHNOM
PENH.
DEAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC MISSION CLOSING, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL RECALL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PHNOM05758
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750110-1027
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975032/aaaaabjr.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <09 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JAPANESE AMBASSADOR BIDS FAREWELL
TAGS: PFOR, JA, CB, (KURINO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006